

Keiichi HIRANO
Atty. Dkt.: Q94096
Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application. Claims 4 and 9 have been amended to delete improper multiple dependencies and to place them in better condition for examination. Claims 11 and 12 have been added. The public should be advised that the present Preliminary Amendment is not considered or intended to be narrowing amendment surrendering any equivalents.

Examination of the application on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


John T. Callahan
Registration No. 32,607

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: April 4, 2006